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- (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): MERCK & CO. INC. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).
- (72) Inventors; and
- (75) Inventors/Applicants (for US only): XIAO, Yi [CN/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). ARMSTRONG, Joseph, D., III [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). KRSKA, Shane, W. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). NJOLITO, Eugenia [ID/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). RIVERA, Nelo, R. [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). SUN, Yongkui [US/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US). ROSNER, Thorsten [DE/US]; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).

- (74) Common Representative: MERCK & CO. INC.; 126 East Lincoln Avenue, Rahway, NJ 07065-0907 (US).
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(54) Title: PROCESS FOR THE PREPARATION OF CHIRAL BETA AMINO ACID DERIVATIVES BY ASYMMETRIC HY-

(57) Abstract: The present invention relates to a process for the efficient preparation of enantiomerically enriched beta amino acid derivatives which are useful in the asymmetric synthesis of biologically active molecules. The process comprises an enantioselective hydrogenation of a prochiral beta amino acrylic acid derivative substrate in the presence of a transition metal precursor complexed with a chiral ferrocenyl diphosphine ligand.